Patent Claims

1. 3,3,4,4-Tetrafluorocyclopentane compounds of the formula I

 $R^{1}-(A^{1}-Z^{1})_{m}-A^{2}-Z^{2} \longrightarrow F F$

in which

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is H, or an alkyl radical having up to 15 carbon atoms which is unsubstituted, monosubstituted by CN or CF₃ or at least monosubstituted by halogen, where, in addition, one or more CH₂ groups in these radicals may each, independently of one another, be replaced by -O-, -CH=CH-, -CO-, -CO-O-, -O-CO- or -O-CO-O- in such a way that O atoms are not linked directly to one another,

A¹ and A² are each, independently of one another,

- (a) a trans-1,4-cyclohexylene radical, in which, in addition, one or more non-adjacent CH₂ groups may be replaced by -Oand/or -S-,
- (b) a 1,4-phenylene radical, in which, in addition, one or two CH groups may be replaced by N,
- (c) 1,4-cyclohexenylene,
 - (d) a radical from the group consisting of 1,4-bicyclo[2.2.2]octylene, piperidine-1,4-diyl, naphthalene-2,6-diyl, decahydronaphthalene-2,6-diyl and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene-2,6-diyl,

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where the radicals (a) to (d) may be substituted by one or more fluorine atoms,

 Z^1 and Z^2 are each, independently of one another, -CO-O-, -O-CO-, -CH₂O-, -OCH₂-, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH=CH-, -C≡C-, -(CH₂)₄-, -CF₂O-, -OCF₂-, -C₂F₄-, -CH=CH-CH₂CH₂- or a single bond, and

m is 0, 1 or 2.

2. Compounds of the formulae I1-I30

$$R^1 \longrightarrow H \longrightarrow F$$
 I1

$$R^{1}$$
 H H F $I2$

$$R^{1}$$
 H F F F

$$R^{1}$$
 H H F F H

$$R^{1}$$
 H F F

$$R^{1} \longrightarrow 0 \longrightarrow F$$

$$R^{1} \longrightarrow H \longrightarrow F$$

$$R^{1} \longrightarrow 0 \qquad F \qquad F \qquad F \qquad \qquad I10$$

$$R^{1} \longrightarrow F$$

$$F$$

$$F$$

$$R^{1}$$
 H O F F F F

$$R^{1} \longrightarrow 0$$

$$F \qquad F$$

$$F \qquad I17$$

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$$R^1 \longrightarrow H$$
 $O \longrightarrow F$ F

$$R^{1} \longrightarrow H \longrightarrow CF_{2}O \longrightarrow O \longrightarrow F$$

$$R^{1} \qquad H \qquad C_{2}F_{4} \qquad O \qquad F_{F} \qquad I20$$

$$R^1 \longrightarrow F^F$$
 I21

 $R^{1} - O = F$ F = F 123

 $R^{1} \longrightarrow F$ $F \longrightarrow F$ $F \longrightarrow F$ $F \longrightarrow F$ $F \longrightarrow F$

 $R^{1} - O = F$ $R^{1} - O = F$ E = F 125

 $R^{1} - H - F = F$

 $R^{1} \longrightarrow H \longrightarrow F$

$$R^1 \longrightarrow 0$$
 | 128

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$$R^1$$
 O
 F
 F
 F
 F
 F

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in which R^1 is as defined in Claim 1, and L^1 and L^2 are each, independently of one another, H or F.

- 3. Compounds according to Claim 1 or 2, characterised in that R¹ is alkyl, alkoxy, alkenyl or alkenyloxy having up to 7 carbon atoms.
 - 4. Use of compounds of the formula I as components of liquid-crystalline media.
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- 5. Liquid-crystalline medium having at least two liquid-crystalline components, characterised in that it comprises at least one compound of the formula I.
- 6. Liquid-crystal display element, characterised in that it contains a liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 5.
 - 7. Electro-optical display element, characterised in that it contains, as dielectric, a liquid-crystalline medium according to Claim 5.